

SENATE BILL 562

By McNally

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,  
Chapter 6, relative to school safety.

WHEREAS, although many public schools have a safety day, the hazards facing today's children are too immense to be addressed in that period of time; and

WHEREAS, it is better to combat at a young age the pervasive and pernicious availability of drugs and alcohol before it develops a toehold in students' lives; and

WHEREAS, the Internet poses special risks to young people since they are more trusting and more willing to share personal information on-line than adults; and

WHEREAS, accidents are a leading cause of death for young people; now, therefore,  
BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 10, is amended by adding a new section thereto, as follows:

Section 49-6-1023.

(a) The course of instruction in all public schools shall include instruction in safety hazards. Such safety hazard instruction shall include such subjects as drugs, alcohol, weapons, bomb threats, fires, and violent school incidents. Such instruction may be taught when the LEA determines is the most appropriate and opportune time, but shall not be less than three (3) hours of actual instruction time each school year.

(b) Public schools may use volunteer experts in fire safety, drug and alcohol abuse, weaponry, and Internet risks, to conduct the instruction required by this section.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007, the public welfare requiring it.